



ISI Strategic Plan for 2011-2015

17th October 2011

The mission of the ISI is to promote the understanding, development and good practice of statistics worldwide.

This shall be accomplished by:

- a) Promoting excellence in statistical research, education and practice;
- b) Supporting the international statistical community in the establishment and maintenance of sound statistical institutions;
- c) Fostering the appreciation by governments and the public at large of the value of Statistics and statistical methods in all aspects of human endeavour; and
- d) Facilitating collaboration among diverse groups of ISI members, and among statistical societies and other national and international organisations with statistical interests.

<u>Plan</u>	<u>Background</u>	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Strategies</u>
A. Enlarging the Membership Base	The combined membership of the ISI and its Associations is relatively small compared to the number of statisticians around the world. The restriction to elected member has been a limiting factor in attracting different types of members. The new category of regular membership will be very helpful in broadening ISI membership.	To increase membership, especially among those in early to mid-careers and from developing countries, so that the ISI becomes a dynamic organization that truly represents statisticians around the world.	<p>i) Develop and implement a large-scale membership drive to attract regular members from around the world. This should be a multi-pronged effort: a) attract current members of ISI Associations to join the ISI as regular members, b) introduce the ISI to new members and aim to recruit them, and c) place a special emphasis on young statisticians (see related item) and statisticians from developing countries.</p> <p>ii) Attract individual members from National and International Statistical Offices, again at early and mid-career levels. This would require providing appropriate benefits for this group of practitioners (see item on Improving Value and Benefits).</p> <p>iii) Develop a mechanism to proactively identify and nominate deserving regular members and non-members for elected membership.</p>
B. Improving the Value and	To attract new members and retain	To improve the range of products	i) Continue efforts to improve the quality of the programme for the ISI

Benefits of Membership	current members, the ISI must provide a set of clear benefits that are not already being provided by other groups. The needs in this area have to be identified, new benefits have to be developed and the quality of existing benefits improved, as necessary. It is also critical that we develop and implement mechanisms to improve communications among and within individual members as well as national and regional statistical societies. The ISI must work to develop a sense of community among members.	and services offered to members as well as mechanisms for communication and networking.	<p>World Statistics Congresses (WSC) and to offer opportunities for networking at the WSCs for various groups.</p> <p>ii) Identify and organize/co-sponsor regional conferences, workshops, and other educational opportunities in developing regions, jointly with ISI Associations and other societies.</p> <p>iii) Continue with current efforts on publications: a) refocusing the International Statistical Review as a top-quality review journal; and b) launch the new online journal on Rapid Research Communications. Also, do more to cross-promote Associations' publications.</p> <p>iv) Continue efforts to improve the ISI website and deploy it effectively for regular communication with members.</p> <p>v) Develop a regular online magazine (replacing the old newsletter) that will develop a sense of community among ISI members.</p> <p>vii) Develop mechanisms for networking among statisticians from developing and developed regions of the world.</p> <p>viii) Find ways to encourage interactions among ISI Associations and develop additional synergistic activities.</p> <p>ix) Develop a mechanism to get regular feedback from members about their needs and potential new services.</p>
C. Promoting Young Statisticians (YS)	The ISI needs to offer resources and opportunities to YS that are unique to a global organization. Involving YS will also allow the ISI to become a more dynamic	To integrate, promote, support and draw from the talents of YS in all facets of the ISI's structure and functions, and use their resources to revitalize and	<p>i) Coordinate YS activities across the ISI Associations and other statistical societies, share good practices, and work together to develop new ones.</p> <p>ii) Support and expand short course initiatives and investigate the possibility of developing web-accessible courses and materials.</p>

	organization that benefits from YS's fresh outlook, energy, enthusiasm, and ability to use new technologies.	secure the future of the ISI.	<p>iii) Develop new awards to promote YS's from all parts of the world.</p> <p>iv) Examine the potential to include YS's in various ISI organizational structure and leadership activities.</p> <p>v) Make the YSI Satellite Meeting a standard feature of the ISI World Congresses.</p> <p>vi) Identify funding opportunities for YS to attend and participate at the ISI WSCs.</p>
D. Partnering with Statistical Societies and Organizations and being the international voice of Statistics	The ISI is uniquely positioned to bring together various statistical societies worldwide and coordinate efforts to promote statistics and statisticians.	To facilitate and provide a platform to promote interactions among national and regional statistical societies as well as national and international statistical organizations. Work with these groups to promote statistics and statisticians worldwide and be the international voice on important statistical matters affecting/discussed in society in general.	<p>i) Accelerate efforts to build a network of national and regional statistical societies, and develop opportunities for collaboration.</p> <p>ii) Develop partnerships with organizations in developing countries to build statistical capacity.</p> <p>iii) Identify and implement mechanisms to attract National Statistical Societies, especially those from developing countries, and their members, to become affiliated with the ISI.</p> <p>iv) Develop a similar effort with national and international statistical offices.</p> <p>v) Work with these groups to make statements on policy when relevant, commission 'white papers' on topics of global importance, etc.</p> <p>vi) Work with these groups to develop funding sources to support YS's and activities in developing countries.</p>
E. Improving the financial state of the ISI	The ISI has had a financial shortfall in recent years, due to declining revenue and unanticipated	To support the ISI's strategic initiatives by identifying and undertaking fund-raising activities.	<p>i) Analyze the activities performed in the PO and their costs and align them with the ISI's priorities.</p> <p>ii) Increase income by attracting more</p>

	<p>expenses. The ISI is severely limited in its ability to undertake many of its outreach activities due to lack of funds. This can be done only through a concerted effort to raise funds.</p>	<p>To reduce costs by streamlining operations.</p>	<p>members.</p> <p>iii) Identify programmes and strategic initiatives that can be supported or co-sponsored by external funding and find sources of funding.</p> <p>iv) Develop sponsorships for named lectures at WSCs, courses, and workshops.</p> <p>v) Find more sponsors for the social functions of the WSCs.</p>
<p>F. Improving Organizational Efficiency, Communications and Interactions between the ISI, its Volunteer Committees, and the Associations</p>	<p>The ISI depends critically on the volunteer efforts of its members who come from geographically diverse and distant locations. Consequently, weaknesses in organizational efficiency can undermine the ability of the ISI to meet its long-term goals.</p>	<p>To ensure that the ISI structures and processes support the ISI mission and objectives</p>	<p>i) Develop and implement mechanisms to communicate effectively among ISI Council/EC and the Associations so that all groups are fully informed. To ensure that the operations and activities of the Associations are consistent with the overall strategies of the ISI.</p> <p>ii) Work within existing structures to develop a clear division of responsibilities and roles.</p> <p>ii) Minimize structural complexity required to support the ISI activities by Council/EC portfolios, but find mechanisms to make the various groups well informed and closely connected for discussion and decision-making.</p> <p>iv) Assess the role of the Permanent Office in supporting the ISI family including the Committees for implementing the adopted policies and strategies.</p> <p>v) Improve communication between the ISI Permanent Office and the ISI/Associations' membership-at-large.</p>
<p>G. Harnessing the power of the Internet</p>	<p>The ISI has a unique position among Statistical Societies due to its encompassing</p>	<p>To transform the ISI website from a showcase website to a web portal full of information and</p>	<p>i) Develop a comprehensive Job search/listing/advertising/recruiting component for any statistics-related job.</p>

	<p>nature that unites diverse aspects of the statistical discipline and organizations. However, the geographical distance among members also means that it is a challenge to keep members connected. The Internet can provide a very effective way to address this challenge and bring together members and organizations.</p>	<p>resources for statisticians. Exploit Information Technology tools to make the services and benefits easily accessible to members and also to bring together members, ISI Associations, statistical societies and organizations.</p>	<p>ii) Develop a database of web-accessible, short course materials, including video and lecture notes.</p> <p>iii) Develop a 'news' section with regular updates of the latest statistical developments, and perhaps a blog-like interface.</p> <p>iv) Maintain a comprehensive listing of statistical events, conferences, research centers and activities.</p> <p>v) Investigate how to use the website to generate revenue for the ISI, e.g. through the Job Search component, or targeted advertising and sponsoring.</p>
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Assessment:

- i) The Permanent Office, with input from the Executive Committee, will develop a document that describes the current situation of the ISI in relation to the objectives and plans described above – both strengths and weaknesses. This will serve as the benchmark for comparison.
- ii) The Executive Committee will conduct an annual review of activities and submit a report to the Council. The Council will discuss the report, assess progress and provide feedback to the Executive Committee at its annual meeting.